



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

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AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

February 8, 2005

TO: Audit Committee

FROM: J. Tyler McCauley 
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **SUNSET REVIEW FOR THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY SMALL CRAFT
HARBOR COMMISSION**

RECOMMENDATION

The Audit Committee recommend to the Board of Supervisors (Board) that the Los Angeles County Small Craft Harbor Commission's sunset review date be extended to December 31, 2009.

BACKGROUND

The Small Craft Harbor Commission (SCHC or Commission) was established by the Board and is continued pursuant to Chapter 2.116.030 of the Los Angeles County Code. The most recent renewal was approved by the Board at their May 15, 2001 meeting.

The SCHC advises the Board and the Department of Beaches and Harbors (DBH) on the following:

- Policies and procedures for the planning, financing, and development of small craft harbor and recreational areas including the small craft harbor and recreational area at Playa Del Rey known as Marina Del Rey (MDR).
- Policies and procedures for the management and operation of small craft harbor properties, including leasing policies and procedures, the necessity and procedure for renegotiations of small craft harbor rentals, and similar matters affecting the leasing and public use of small craft harbor properties.

- Adequacy of rules and regulations established for the operation of small craft harbor areas, including the operation and navigation of boats and public use of facilities therein.
- Upon request of the Board, make recommendations concerning the minimum and maximum prices to be charged by small craft harbor lessees and concessionaires for goods and services provided to the public.

The Commission consists of five members, one appointed by each Supervisorial District. All members are residents of Los Angeles County and well qualified by training and experience in one or more of the following areas:

- Corporate or governmental financing and investment.
- Commercial or governmental construction.
- Real property management.
- Recreational harbor or port planning, management, or operation.
- Public or private corporate executive management.

The SCHC meets twelve times a year. From January 1, 2000 to September 30, 2004 the SCHC held 57 meetings with an average attendance of 3.8 (76%) members. Members receive a \$25 stipend for each meeting attended as well as reimbursement for necessary traveling expenses. Two Commissioners waive their stipends. The DBH estimates annual Commission expenditures of \$152,492 for staff support, commissioner stipends, and other expenses.

JUSTIFICATION

The SCHC advises the Board and the DBH on matters related to the development, financing, leasing, rentals, maintenance, and operation of MDR. The SCHC also makes recommendations concerning the development and operation of small craft harbor recreational facilities and public access to these facilities.

During this review period, the Commission's accomplishments included:

- Made recommendations regarding leasehold purchases and agreement amendments that enabled the County to develop, expand, or improve new or existing assets and facilities in MDR for public and resident use.
- Worked with various County agencies such as the Sheriff's Department, County Counsel, DBH, and the Fire Department to facilitate resolution of public grievances and promote public safety.
- Reviewed numerous concessionaire agreements and made recommendations resulting in improved services, better public access, and increased County revenue.

- Acted as an information resource for other agencies, the public, and MDR residents for important events and notices regarding commercial and recreational activities in MDR.

For the next evaluation period, the SCHC will continue to make recommendations to the Board and the DBH that will ensure new development, improve leasehold maintenance, increase public access, and facilitate resident's use, while keeping public safety and recreational boating its primary consideration.

Please call if you have any questions.

JTM:MMO:IDC

Attachments

- c: Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Robin A. Guerrero, Chief, Board Operations
Jim Corbett, Manager, Commission Services
Stan Wisniewski, Director, Department of Beaches and Harbors
Harley A. Searcy, Chair, Small Craft Harbor Commission

COMMISSION SUNSET REVIEW
LOS ANGELES COUNTY SMALL CRAFT HARBOR COMMISSION
REVIEW COMMENTS

Mission. (Does the mission statement agree with the Board of Supervisors' purpose and expectations?)

Stated mission is as set forth in the ordinance creating the Commission.
CONCUR

Section 1. Relevancy. (Is the mission still relevant and in agreement with the Board of Supervisors' purpose and expectations?)

The SCHC advises the Board and the DBH on matters related to development, financing, leasing, rentals, maintenance, and operation of Marina Del Rey.
RELEVANT

Section 2. Meetings and Attendance. (Are required meetings held and is attendance satisfactory?)

The SCHC meets twelve times a year. From January 1, 2000 to September 30, 2004 the SCHC held 57 meetings with an average attendance of 3.8 (76%) members. **SATISFACTORY**

Sections 3 and 4. Accomplishments and Results. (Are listed accomplishments and results significant?)

During this review period, the Commission's accomplishments included:

- Made recommendations regarding leasehold purchases and agreement amendments that enabled the County to develop, expand, or improve new or existing assets and facilities in MDR for public and resident use.
- Worked with various County agencies such as the Sheriff's Department, County Counsel, DBH, and the Fire Department to facilitate resolution of public grievances and promote public safety such as Seaworthy and Liveaboard Ordinances.
- Reviewed numerous concessionaire agreements and made recommendations resulting in improved services, better public access, and increased County revenue.
- Acted as an information resource for other agencies, the public, and MDR residents for important events and notices regarding commercial and recreational activities in MDR. **SIGNIFICANT**

Section 5. Objectives. (Are the objectives compatible with the mission and goals and relevant within the current County environment?)

For the next evaluation period, the SCHC intends to make recommendations to the Board and the DBH that will ensure new development, improve leasehold maintenance, increase public access, and facilitate resident's use, while keeping public safety and recreational boating its primary consideration. **RELEVANT**

Section 6. Resources. (Are the resources utilized by the entity in support of the entity's activities warranted in terms of the accomplishments and results?)

Members receive a \$25 stipend for each meeting attended as well as reimbursement for necessary traveling expenses. Two Commissioners waive their stipends. The DBH estimates annual Commission expenditures of \$152,492 for staff, commissioner stipends, support and other expenses. **WARRANTED**

Section 7. Recommendation.

**EXTEND THE SUNSET REVIEW DATE FOR THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY
SMALL CRAFT HARBOR COMMISSION TO DECEMBER 31, 2009.**

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY SMALL CRAFT HARBOR COMMISSION
ATTENDANCE RECORD**

| Commissioner | Nominated by | 3/31/00 | 6/30/00 | 9/30/00 | 12/31/00 | 3/31/01 | 6/30/01 | 9/30/01 | 12/31/01 | 3/31/02 | 6/30/02 | 9/30/02 | 12/31/02 | 3/31/03 | 6/30/03 | 9/30/03 | 12/31/03 | 3/31/04 | 6/30/04 | 9/30/04 | Totals | % Attended |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|------------|
| Number of Meetings per Quarter | | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 57 | |
| Carole Stevens | 1st District | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 53 | 93% |
| Harley Searcy | 2nd District | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 51 | 89% |
| Herbert J. Strickstein, Esq. | 3rd District | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 11 | 92% |
| John C. Law | 3rd District | | | | | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | | | 26 | 72% |
| John C. Mac Laurin | 4th District | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 15 | 83% |
| Russell F. Lesser | 4th District | | | | | | | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 33 | 85% |
| Joe Crail | 5th District | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 30 | 53% |
| Totals | | 13 | 13 | 10 | 15 | 10 | 12 | 12 | 10 | 13 | 13 | 14 | 11 | 15 | 11 | 10 | 11 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 219 | |

Average Attendance per Meeting ➔ **3.8**